

REMARKS

The subject application is a Rule 1.53(b) continuation of U.S. Serial No. 10/418,769, filed April 17, 2003. A Notice To File Missing Parts Of Nonprovisional Application-Filing Date Granted was issued on June 18, 2003 in connection with U.S. Serial No. 10/418,769. A petition for an extension of time of five-months, i.e. from August 18, 2003 to January 20, 2004, is being filed concurrently herewith in connection with Serial No. 10/418,769. Accordingly, Serial No. 10/418,769 is pending today and the subject application is co-pending therewith for the purposes of 35 U.S.C. §120.

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to incorporate a reference to the parent application, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §120.

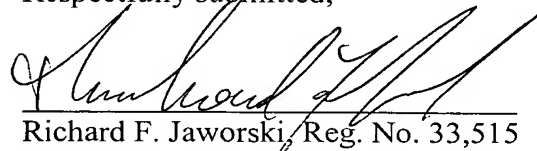
Applicants maintain that this Preliminary Amendment does not introduce new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this amendment and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard F. Jaworski, Reg. No. 33,515
Attorney for Applicant
Cooper & Dunham LLP
Tel.: (212) 278-0400